



STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305

December 13, 1974

STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Department of Genetics  
(415) 497-5052

Dr. Leon E. Rosenberg  
Department of Human Genetics  
Yale University School of Medicine  
333 Cedar Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

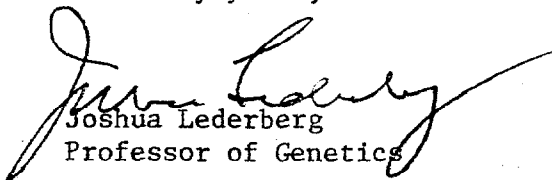
Dear Dr. Rosenberg,

I have your letter of December 10th requesting my evaluation of Dr. Barbara J. Bachmann in respect of the possibility of her promotion to Senior Research Associate. I believe that she has no difficulty in qualifying for this title in the terms of the definition cited in your letter.

For several years Dr. Bachmann has provided invaluable service to the community of investigators in bacterial genetics through her management of the Genetic Stock Center. In this role she functions very much like the curator of a museum and that by itself may not offer much insight into the level of independent research competence which the task entails. In fact, Dr. Bachmann's performance in this regard has been outstanding. Her organization of an array of extremely confusing and sometimes misleading data furnished by other investigators has demonstrated a very high order of analytical ability, and a sensitivity for important issues that bear on the quality of a good deal of extant published research. Besides these critical functions, the quality and reliability of her work in maintenance and in identification of the multitude of strains that has come into her hands results in a net contribution to the progress of the field that exceeds that of many of its active and highly reputed practitioners.

These comments are based on detailed correspondence and conversations that I have had with Dr. Bachmann over many years and my recommendation is therefore based on an informed judgment. I regard her as a highly valued member of the academic community and strongly urge the promotion now under consideration.

Sincerely yours,

  
Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

JL/rr